



Snow Days

RSA189:24 Standard School. – A standard school is one approved by the state board of education, and maintained for **at least 180 days in each year, or the equivalent number of hours** as required in the rules of the department of education, in a suitable and sanitary building, equipped with approved furniture, books, maps and other necessary appliances, taught by teachers, directed and supervised by a principal and a superintendent, each of whom shall hold valid educational credentials issued by the state board of education, with suitable provision for the care of the health and physical welfare of all pupils. A standard school shall provide instruction in all subjects prescribed by statute or by the state board of education for the grade level of pupils in attendance.



Ed 306.18 School Year.

(a) Pursuant to RSA 189:1 and RSA 189:24, each school district shall maintain a school year as provided below:

(1) The school district shall maintain in each elementary school, a school year of at least 945 hours of instructional time and in each kindergarten at least 450 hours of instructional time;

(2) The school district shall maintain in each middle and high school, a school year of at least 990 hours of instructional time. Districts shall provide at least 990 hours of instructional time for grades 7 and 8 in elementary schools that include grades 7, or 8, or both;

(3) The instructional school day of an individual student shall not exceed 5.75 hours of instructional time in elementary schools and 6 hours of instructional time in middle and high schools;

(4) The school shall have in its school year an additional 60 hours in duration to provide for instructional time lost due to inclement weather or unexpected circumstances, staff development, and parent-teacher conferences. At least 30 of the 60 additional hours shall be available for rescheduling hours lost due to inclement weather or other emergencies. Schools shall use these additional hours to reschedule lost instructional time before requesting a waiver of the amount of instructional time under RSA 189:2, unless extraordinary circumstances exist that would place an unreasonable burden on the school or students such as, but not limited to, substantial building damage;

(5) A school may have a shortened day when an emergency condition exists which might adversely affect the health and safety of students, provided that the number of hours of instructional time originally planned for the day shall be credited to the number of hours of instructional time in the school year, if:

- a. On that day, the school would normally have had at least 5.25 hours of instructional time; and
- b. The school remained open for at least 3.5 hours of instructional time;

(6) There shall be no requirement to reschedule instructional time for kindergarten if morning or afternoon kindergarten sessions are cancelled due to delayed opening or early release for students in grade 1 or higher; and

(7) A school district may submit a plan to the commissioner that will allow schools to conduct instruction remotely for up to 5 days per year when the school has been closed due to inclement weather or other emergency. The plan shall include procedures for participation by all students. Academic work shall be equivalent in effort and rigor to typical classroom work. There shall be an assessment of all student work for the day. At least 80 percent of students shall participate for the day to count as a school day.

(b) Lunch time, home room periods, passing time, and breaks shall not be counted toward the required amount of instructional time. Elementary schools may count up to 30 minutes of recess per day as instructional time for pupils in kindergarten through grade 6. Advisory periods in middle and high schools shall be counted as instructional time.

(c) The school year for high school seniors may be reduced by no more than 5 days or 30 hours of instruction, whichever is less, from the number of days or hours of instruction for other high school students.

MINIMUM

- Elementary: 945 hours of instructional time
- Middle and high: 990 hours of instructional time
- Seniors: 960 hours



DETAILS

For the purposes of calculating instructional hours....

Elementary: 5.75 hours a day max

Middle and high: 6 hours a day max

Blizzard Bags: 5 days max

Elementary: 30 min of recess per day = instructional time.

Middle and high: advisory periods = instructional time.



EARLY RELEASES & DELAY OPENINGS:

If you would have been open for 5.25 hours of instructional time and you were open for at least 3.5 hours of instructional time, then you can **count the full instructional hours** that were scheduled that day.



WAIVERS

No waivers given in 2017-2018 school year to-date

Use budgeted 5 days before requesting a waiver.

In the waiver include:

- ❖ Date of first and last day of school
- ❖ Number of instructional hour in a school day
- ❖ Number of days in the school year
- ❖ A *brief* statement why the days were canceled.





Questions?



High School:

5 hours and 30 min per day of instructional time

5 hrs and 30 min = 5.5 hours

How many days needed to meet minimum?

990 hours / 5.5 hours per day = **180 days**

If you had 8 snow days, you are required to budget 5 days beyond 180 days, therefore you can request a waiver for 3 days.

High School:

5 hours and 54 min per day of instructional time

5 hrs and 54 min = 5.9 hours

How many days needed to meet minimum?

990 hours / 5.9 hours per day = **168 days**

If you submitted a Calendar for 180 days, and you budgeted 5 snow days, you won't need a waiver until you have 17 snow days!

High School:

6 hours and 15 min per day of instructional time

6 hrs and 15 min = 6.25 hours

How many days needed to meet minimum?

990 hours / ~~6.25~~ hours per day =

990 hours / 6.0 hours per day = **165 days**

High School:

Tue and Thur – 5.5 hours per day of instructional time

Mon, Wed, and Fri – 5.75 hours per day of instructional time

How many days needed to meet minimum?

Find average day:

2 days at 5.5 hours

3 days at 5.75 hours

$(2 \text{ days} * 5.5 \text{ hrs} + 3 \text{ days} * 5.75 \text{ hrs}) / 5 \text{ days} = 5.65 \text{ hours per day}$

$990 \text{ hours} / 5.65 \text{ hours per day} = 176 \text{ days}$